

ACEC/Caltrans Division of Engineering Services Structures Liaison Committee

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: October 25, 2013

TIME: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

MAIN LOCATION: California Department of Transportation
Division of Engineering Services
1801 30th Street, Room 102 (Farmers Market 1 Building, 1st Floor)
Sacramento, CA 95816

VIDEO CONFERENCE LOCATION: District 12 Office, Room 333
3337 Michelson Drive, Irvine

I. Call to Order

- A. Self-introductions – *see sign-in sheets*
- B. Changes to Agenda – *New Business & Annual Report Items were added*
- C. Review Previous Meeting Minutes (7/26/2013)

II. Old Business

- A. Technical Workshops:
 - 1. Caltrans 2010 Construction Standards Webinar – Update (???)
Nien attended. It's posted on the Construction Web Page under training link. It's an hour long with Q&A, you can listen to at your leisure. Will post link in minutes. This was quick overview and geared more towards Construction (contracting side) and Local Agency folks. Caltrans looking into how to make available. External link doesn't appear to exist.
 - 2. 2010 Specifications Training – Update (Shawn Cullers)
Have 5 people come into Caltrans and sit down with Caltrans folks. These people would then like to go out and train. Can Caltrans provide the time to spend a day training these five individuals? Next step would be to select the dates. Idea is to have a very simple project. Is Ruth Fernandes the right one to do this? The key is we are trying to reinstate the previous spec training class. So we have a simple bridge project, pay item list, estimate and then work through the specification development. ACEC needs to work on the outline and agenda.
 - 3. Structures Design Seminars – Update (Shawn Cullers)
This was primarily dealing with procedures. The other one was to be a "lessons learned" from the Design Build. Barton mentioned that we should consider discussing with the HQ group regarding information sharing, etc. Interpretation of the national spec LRFD, is not really written as a best practices manual and it is not written as a minimum spec, so it makes it very interesting how people try to stretch it. Nien had proposed this originally, so maybe industry could follow a set design guideline. Nien's suggestion is can we draft up a design criteria template which has

a uniform system for designing. Right now, it seems like Design Build teams are going in trying to determine, between what is required and what is intended by the design. Mark suggested that ACEC go back and put a draft together of what they feel would be an agenda for this seminar, that could cover the design parameters or criteria, or could it be lessons learned. Lam suggested pulling together the separate task force to pull together this group to flush out this idea of trying to identify this format for this training class. Elias re-affirmed that this is a hot topic because Caltrans is trying to implement a new code with guidelines that has some uniformity and acceptance to it.[??]

III. Recurring Business

A. DES Updates (Lam get updates emailed to me)

- ✓ *Lam Nguyen sitting in for Shira Rajendra, who is the Acting Deputy Chief of Program / Project & Resource Management*
- ✓ *One major update Kelly Holden is now the Structure Design Office Chief (West)*
- ✓ *John Stayton is the assistant division chief of construction*

B. DES Updates: Memo to Designers, Technical Research, IQA (Barton Newton)

- ✓ *California Amendments Will be Adopting 6th Edition with California Amendments by January 1st. They plan on putting on some internal workshops and then eventually go externally with them.*
- ✓ *They did adopt the 6th Edition*
- ✓ *Overhead Sign Structures Guide is completed, and is available though it's not online yet. Will make available to consultants.*

Guidance material:

- ✓ *MTD 15-19 is in final draft*
- ✓ *Going through a process of cleanup and looking at various MTD that are really old or don't really apply so they will be providing an archive list. They will no longer be listed online and electronically. They will be listed, but designated as "archived" or old. Can get copies of them if needed.*
- ✓ *Putting a list together of "metric" memos, so they need to looking at all the guidance in metric and those they can archive, they will get rid of, or possibly look at updating. (Email Barton)*
- ✓ *CT Abut is about to be released for purchase could be couple months. Legal is looking at it, but will follow same release as CT Bridge.*
- ✓ *Structure Policy Directives – Caltrans realizes their memo, details etc was developed over many years. So they have come up with a concept of the Structure Policy Directives – these are very high level concepts that are concise and may point to other materials. For example one on "Quality" is forthcoming ...Another one is "Project Risk". These are signed by the Structures Policy Board. Another task they are looking at is design exceptions. How these are incorporated and addressed*
- ✓ *Structures Strategic Direction is the Final draft that is about to come out, but is not available on the internet. There are 5 directives that they will be focusing their efforts on.*
- ✓ *2 more technical issues they are working on. One area they are working on is early age deck cracking. They have now initiated some pilot projects to try to address early age deck cracking. They will be looking at higher performing curing methods,*

water content, cement content and fiber reinforced concrete. Can some of these items help to address and eliminate early age deck cracking.

- ✓ *The other area is grouting for post-tensioned structures. Can Caltrans adopt the PTI spec with California modifications? There will be some pilot projects to try this. They will require a grouting plan, grout report, certification of grouter, 3 vents at the high spot. Flushing, vents at low points, prepackage grout*
- ✓ *New spec eliminates flushing of ducts if there is a problem, they will instead look at trying to come in and find ways to resolved the problems after grouting.*
- ✓ *There was a call for research posted (Barton will send email link). Want to look at the phi resistance factor for CIDH piles to see if they can refine it and improve it.*
- ✓ *FHWA is doing a review of the deep foundations in Caltrans for CIDH, CISS and Driven Pile Foundation. Are there any improvements we can make and are we meeting the intent of LRFD Spec*
- ✓ *Moving forward with ABC guidelines and trying to make them more mainstream. Mark asked if Caltrans has done more research on the seismic connections for ABC Bridges. They have, but they haven't rolled out guidelines that follow s the recent research. So that may be coming in the future. Barton asked would it be worthwhile to put together a more robust Type Selection Process Document – Mark pointed out that there are too many variables like contractor and their comfort level. But too many constraints enter into the equation for specific projects, so writing these up as guidelines is tough. Mark pointed out it might be more important to really quantify user delay costs, which is often the main element that justifies the higher costs.*
- ✓ *Elias mentioned that it could be different for corridor concepts.*
- ✓ *Julie mentioned that for some of her projects they are attempting to CRIP cast in place to precast, because now suddenly they can get longer girders to the site.*
- ✓ *MAP21 people working on this. Biggest change was how they changed from the dedicated HPP Fund, they now will have to compete for the money through the asset management and reporting. So may really flip how things are done*
- ✓ *Last published SP&I Bulletin was August 2013*

C. **Project Development Oversight/Updates/Contracting Opportunities**

Lam wanted to mention Functional Quality Management Plan for everything we do. OSFP is looking into their operations and will be having to revise many of the things they do and how they will be moving forward. So will be rolling out in different phases and processes. No contracting out possibilities at this point.

D. **Statewide ACEC Committee Update (Shawn Cullers)**

There are two higher levels. Headquarters ACEC and there is the Executive ACEC Committee that meets with Malcom. HQ ACEC mostly been focused on boiler plate language as to standard of care and conflict of interest language that precluded sub firms from working on other operations.

Conflicts in prevailing wage reimbursements and travel worked out, but what is subject to prevailing wage and reimbursements.

IV. New Business

A. **MAP 21 Implementation – This is a big task and how is this moving forward.**

- ✓ *NHPP . They are currently working under the current guidelines and following those along. How they do new programming is where the question. Caltrans waiting for the determination for the rule making and what is asset management,*

performance measures, maintenance. There are national performance measures, not sure how much those can be adjusted for local measures.

- ✓ *Looking at going to more preservation techniques. Good, Fair and Poor. What happens with these and how they are categorized.*
- ✓ *Until we get a better idea on the rule making.*
- ✓ *Majid wanted to point out that BPMP money is being used to improve SR but that might make bridges ineligible for other work like retrofitting, etc.*
- ✓ *Also Majid was hoping that going forward will be more uniform across the bridges and might get more consistency across the inventory.*

B. 2014 Meeting Dates

- ✓ February 7, 2014 (Friday)
- ✓ April 25, 2014 (Friday)
- ✓ July 25, 2014 (Friday)
- ✓ Oct. 24, 2014 (Friday)

✓

C. Annual Report

- ✓ *Shawn will draft the Annual Report for circulation to the Representatives for review and comment*

D. Open Discussion

- ✓ *Mark pointed out that for Caltrans Type Selections now, Caltrans mentioned that new bridges will have to be load rated with their final submittals. Mark pointed out that it was not clear whether or not this should be done by LRFR or LRFD. Mark suggested that a structure policy memo should clearly identify the procedures to follow.*
- ✓ *Mark also pointed out that for local agency bridges, we should be doing load ratings and could submit them with our as-builts. But this will take a directive from*

V. 2013 Meeting Schedule

~~February 1st (Friday)~~

~~April 26th (Friday)~~

~~July 26th (Friday)~~

~~October 25th (Friday)~~

Distribution:

Robert Pieplow, Caltrans, DES

Rob Stott, Caltrans, SC

Mike Keever, Caltrans, SD

Tom Ostrom, Caltrans, EQE

Barton Newton, Caltrans, SPI

Dolores Valls, Caltrans, SMI

Lam Nguyen, Caltrans, OSFP

Phil Stolarski, Caltrans, GS/METS

Shira Rajendra, Caltrans, PPRM

Eric Fredrickson, Caltrans, OSFP

Walt LaFranchi, URS Corporation

Wei Koo, WKE

Mark Ashley, TY Lin International

Jay Holombo, TY Lin International

Nien Wang, HNTB

Jim Frost, Simon Wong Engineering

Tom Walker, NV5

Jack Abcarius, NV5

Chandu Shenoy, NV5

Mark Reno, Quincy Engineering

Steve Tayanipour, Huitt Zollars

Todd Goolkasian, Cornerstone Struct. Eng.

Shawn M. Cullers, Cornerstone Struct. Eng.

Greg Zeiss, HDR

Majid Sarraf, TTG

Ayman Salama, TRC

Kevin Coates, WKE

Syed Kazmi, URS

Po Chen, Mark Thomas & Company

Sunny Jhutti, AECOM

Kevin Thompson, URS

Patricia Preston, Apex Civil Engineering

John Woelfel, HNTB